Remarks

Claims 1-19 have been amended to more precisely claim the present invention.

Support for these claim amendments can be found in paragraphs [0032] to [0038],

[0053] to [0059], and [0064] to [0069] as well as other portions of the specification. No claims have been canceled. Claims 1-19 remain pending in the application.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show descriptive details and/or numbering. Replacement drawing sheets are being submitted that correct informalities and add reference numerals identified in the specification, but previously omitted in the drawings. Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by these amendments. In view of the replacement drawing sheets, the Applicant believes that the objections to the drawings have been overcome. As such, the Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Amendments to Specification

The disclosure contained several informalities. The application has been amended to correct minor typographical errors, formatting inconsistency, inconsistent use of terminology throughout the specification, and other informalities. A substitute specification is enclosed. As required by 37 C.F.R. 1.125(c), clean and marked-up versions of the specification are enclosed. Applicant submits that the enclosed substitute specification contains no new matter.

35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention. In particular, the Examiner requested further interpretation of the terms normalize and de-normalize as used in claims 1-7 and 15-19. In addition, the Examiner asked for similar clarification in claims 8-14 that recite means for normalizing a request and de-normalizing a prediction. The Examiner may

review paragraphs [0032] to [0038], [0053] to [0059], and [0064] to [0069] as well as other portions of the specification to obtain clarification of the terms of the claims. In addition, the claims have been amended or canceled to overcome these objections. In view the claim amendments and cancellations, the Applicant respectfully requests that the objections to the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and other informalities be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Becker '223. Becker '223 generally describes a system and method for predictive caching of information pages. In contrast, the present invention as now claimed in amended claims involves a normalization and de-normalization process not found in Becker '223. In short, Becker '223 does not teach normalizing a request by removing a variable, determining a prediction or hint of a future network object likely to be requested by the web client, and de-normalizing the hint by substituting the removed variable into the URL for the hint as specified in independent claims 1, 8 and 15.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and therefore are allowable over Becker '223 for the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and therefore are allowable over Becker '223 for the same reasons that claim 8 is allowable. Claims 16-19 depend from claim 15 and therefore are allowable over Becker '223 for the same reasons that claim 15 is allowable.

Therefore, under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), Becker '223 fails to teach the present invention as claimed in claims 1-19 and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Applicant has reviewed the other references cited the by Examiner and determined that they do not teach or suggest the present invention.

Conclusion

On the basis of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-19 are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 9 May 2005

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